

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (currently amended) An in-mold foam molding method for molding a core employing an in-mold foam molding apparatus comprising a core mold and a cavity mold devoid of air orifices at least in those molding sections for molding prominent areas of the outside face of a molded article; and fixed partitioning members of comb configuration having a plurality of teeth for preventing passage of bead starting materials, a proximal end of said members teeth being fixed to a surface of a side of a mold chamber of the core mold or cavity mold with said teeth arranged along the mold parting direction, said method comprising the steps of:

filling adjacent partitioned mold chambers partitioned by means of said fixed partitioning members with bead starting materials of different properties; [[and]]

supplying steam to the mold cavity to heat and fuse the bead starting materials;

releasing molded articles from molds by pulling out the teeth of said fixed partitioning members; and

forming a plurality of through-holes and wells extending in the mold parting direction at

locations corresponding to those of the teeth.

Claim 3 (currently amended) The in-mold foam molding method according to claim 2 or claim 8,

wherein said air orifices are completely omitted from all molding sections of the core mold and cavity mold and a clearance instead of air orifices is formed at a parting line of the two molds.

Claims 4-7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (currently amended) An in-mold foam molding method employing an in-mold foam molding apparatus comprising a core mold and a cavity mold devoid of air orifices at least in those molding sections for molding prominent areas of the outside face of a molded article; and fixed partitioning members of comb configuration having a plurality of teeth, a proximal end of said members teeth being fixed to a surface of a side of a mold chamber of the core mold or cavity mold with said teeth arranged along the mold parting direction, and employing as the bead starting materials a first bead starting material incapable of passing through teeth and a second bead starting material capable of passing through the teeth, said method comprising the steps of:

with the core mold and cavity mold closed so that the mold cavity is partitioned into a plurality of partitioned mold chambers by fixed partitioning members, filling with the first bead

starting material; [[and]]

filling with second bead starting material, each partitioned mold chamber being filled with bead starting materials such that at least adjacent partitioned mold chambers are filled with bead starting materials of different properties; [[and]]

supplying steam to the mold cavity to heat and fuse the bead starting materials;

releasing molded articles from molds by pulling out the teeth of said fixed partitioning members; and

forming a plurality of through-holes and wells extending in the mold parting direction at locations corresponding to those of the teeth.

Claim 9 (previously presented) The in-mold foam molding method according to claim 2 or claim 8,

wherein said plurality of partitioned mold chambers are filled with bead starting materials of different degrees of expansion.

Claim 10 (canceled).